# The BULLETIN

*Official Organ of the National Association of Teachers of Singing, Inc.*

Volume I | APRIL, 1945 | No. 3

## THE PRESIDENT COMMENTS

The enforced cancellation of our annual meeting, scheduled at Detroit in mid-February, made it necessary for your Board of Directors and Executive Committee to meet for the transaction of necessary business. This joint session was held in New York on February 18, with all members present.

In the columns of this **Bulletin** you will find specific reports of this all-day meeting and the text of by-laws amendments submitted for the consideration and vote of all members of NATS—reports and proposed amendments which would have come before members attending the annual meeting had it been held.

As your President I should like to comment, somewhat informally, upon the actions of Directors and Executive officers during the New York session and to emphasize the significance of those actions. First of all, I wish to pay tribute to the loyalty of all these officers who, regardless of personal inconvenience and in some instances costly interruption of teaching activities, attended this meeting and wholeheartedly contributed to its accomplishments.

Of the four amendments to our by-laws recommended by the Board of Directors, two are merely routine additions to clarify the duties of officers and will, I assume, be accepted by our membership as a matter of course. The other two challenge more scrutiny. The one proposing an increase in membership dues from $3.00 to $5.00 per year, beginning January 1, 1946, will be of personal interest to every member, and to prospective members.

My own feeling, shared by every member of your Executive Committee, is that every present and prospective member of NATS will be glad to pay $5.00 per year dues and thus provide adequate funds for efficiently carrying forward the constructive program of the Association. While we have, during the first year of the Association's existence, been able to meet the organization and administrative expenses and remain solvent—to date!—this has been possible only because several officers paid current bills with their own funds and waited until payment of 1945 dues by members enabled our treasury to reimburse them. Only a steady flow of dues from new members during the current year will provide necessary funds for recurring administrative expenses. Contemplated projects in research and the distribution to members of pedagogical material in printed form will entail considerable expense. Such research and dissemination of educational material are precisely the things which will make membership valuable. Realizing this, every member will surely regard a $5.00 annual payment as well-justified investment. I hope for unanimous ratification of the Directors' action in projecting the by-laws amendment to increase our annual dues by $2.00 per year.

The other amendment which may challenge the personal interest of prospective members is that which elucidates the statement of qualifications for membership by specifying "adequate" teaching experience as "a minimum of five consecutive years of actual voice teaching." Your Directors and Executive Officers feel that such a concrete definition of "adequate experience" will simplify the problem of determining the eligibility of many applicants for membership. I personally feel that this amendment should be ratified. While this Association should welcome the younger teachers whose qualifications of educational preparation and ethical integrity meet its standards, its privileges and prestige should not be bestowed upon the novitiate teacher who has had insufficient teaching experience to demonstrate efficiency. Young teachers lacking such experience may look forward to membership in NATS when they have completed the specified five years of professional service.

To facilitate the program of NATS activities, the Executive Committee authorized the President to appoint, subject to its approval, the following committees:

**Research Committee** whose duties will be to compile a resume of significant research in the vocal field up to the present time; to keep in touch with all known current research projects and report to the Executive Committee which will, at its discretion, release such reports to our membership.

**Editorial Committee** whose duties will be to compile data regarding any educational pronouncement or report that is designed for release to members and edit it so that it will reflect the prevailing opinion of members who have contributed to discussions of the material.

**Survey Committee** whose duties it will be to conduct a survey and report to the Executive Committee any laws or regulations throughout the United States having to do with licensing vocal teachers or granting scholastic credits to pupils of teachers outside the faculties of accredited schools, colleges or universities.

**Publicity Committee** whose duties it shall be to convey to editors of music periodicals, reports of all NATS activities of public interest and in every appropriate manner to publicize the aims and achievements of this Association.

The personnel of these various committees is being carefully considered, several appointments have already been made, and it is expected that they will soon be functioning. Obviously the activities of these committees should bring forth material of great interest and value to all of our members.

The appointive office of "Co-ordinator of Field Activities" was created, to take the place of "Chairman of Regional Governors." Leon Carson, who had for the past several months so efficiently functioned as Chairman of Regional Governors, was unanimously chosen for this new office, in which he will have expanded duties and commensurate authority. The Executive Committee is cognizant of the fact that the continued growth of NATS in both membership and efficiency will depend largely upon the work of its field officers and representatives. Mr. Carson will have the responsibility of coordinating and integrating this field work and the Executive Committee deeply appreciates his willingness to accept this important assignment. As soon as a new Regional Governor for the Eastern section can be appointed Mr. Carson will be relieved of that office, which he has held since the organization of NATS, so that he may concentrate his energies upon the work of further organizing our field activities.

It is a matter of keen regret to all members of the Executive Committee that a large number of the NATS membership could not have gathered in annual meeting and participated in discussing and voting upon the by-laws amendments and plans for development of educational projects which claimed its attention at its New York meeting. Under existing circumstances, your executive officers tried conscientiously to make such decisions, subject to membership approval, as seemed to them advisable. It is their hope that all members will read carefully the reports of the Executive Committee's and Board of Directors' actions, reported in this issue of the **Bulletin,** and promptly suggest revision or modification of any project that fails to meet their approval. It is the desire of your officers to reflect the wishes of members—not to dictate them.

Pending that happy day when we may again meet in annual convention we may, through concerted effort of members throughout all parts of our land, in cooperation with their regional officers, carry forward the progressive program of NATS and greatly augment its membership, thus hastening the time when it will realize its great potentialities as an organized force for the betterment of our profession and the advancement of its educational standards.

JOHN C. WILCOX, President.

## THE BULLETIN

Editor
HOMER G. MOWE


## OFFICIAL DIRECTORY
of the
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
of
TEACHERS OF SINGING, INC.

**Officers**
**(1944-1946)**

President.....John C. Wilcox
5212 Cornell Ave., Chicago (15) Ill.

Vice-President.....Homer G. Mowe
171 W. 71st St., New York (23) N. Y.

Secretary.....Walter Allen Stults
Box 694, Evanston, Ill.

Treasurer.....Carl Gutekunst
27 W. 67th St., New York (23) N. Y.

Registrar.....Grace Leslie
344 West 72nd St., New York (23) N. Y.

**Regional Governors**
**(1944-1946)**

Eastern—Leon Carson, 160 W. 73rd St., New York (23) N. Y. (All New England States, N. Y., N. J., Penn., Md., Del.).

Southeastern — Clifford Edwin Bair, 426 Hawthorne Road, Winston-Salem, N. C., (Va., W. Va., D. C., N. C., S. C., Ga., Fla.).

Southern—J. Oscar Miller, 421 Walnut St., Chattanooga, Tenn. (Ky., Tenn., Ala., Miss., La.).

Central—Richard DeYoung, 721 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago (11) Ill. (Ohio, Ind., Ill., Mich., Wis., Mo.).

Northern—J. Forrest West, Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa. (Minn., N. D., S. D., Iowa, Neb.).

Southwestern—Albert Lukken, University of Tulsa, Tulsa, Okla. (Kan., Okla., Ark., Tex., N. M., Colo., Utah).

California-Western—Ruth Miller Chamlee, 8118 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles (46) Calif. (Calif., Ariz., Nev.).

Northwestern—Charles Wilson Lawrence, University of Washington, Seattle (5) Wash. (Wyo., Mont., Idaho, Wash., Ore.).

**Representatives-at-Large**
**(1945)**

Eastern—Alfred Spouse, 13 S. Fitzhugh, St. Rochester (4) N. Y.; Lewis James Howell, 1531 Pine St., Philadelphia (2) Pa.

Southeastern—Marguerite Ringo, Brenau College, Gainesville, Ga.

Southern — Mrs. Lilian G. McCook, Louisiana State Normal College, Natchitoches, La.

Central—John O. Samuel, 2061 Morrison Ave., Lakewood, Ohio; Stanley Deacon, Cons. of Music, Kansas City, Mo.

Northern—Peter D. Tkach, Board of Education, Minneapolis, Minn.

Southwestern—Florence Lamont Hinman, 909 Grant St., Denver, Colo.; Chase Baromeo, College of Fine Arts, Univ. of Texas, Austin, Tex.

California-Western — Mynard Jones, 5888 Chabot Road, Oakland, Calif.

Northwestern—Alvah A. Beecher, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho; Evelene Calbreath, 505 Columbia Bldg., Portland, Ore.

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Chairman — Committee on Admissions:: Bernard U. Taylor, 464 Riverside Drive, New York (27) N. Y.

For all information regarding membership in or activities of the National Association, you are invited to communicate with the Regional Governor of the District in which you reside,—or the Secretary.

## EDITORIALS

### A Service of Information

With the appointment of an Editorial Committee, a start has been made in providing a channel through which each year a steady flow of material on all phases of voice education will be placed in the hands of our members.

This material may come from inside the organization or from outside, and probably will come from both sources. Members will have the opportunity to suggest subjects for investigation and to recommend material that has proven of value to them.

The Committee has a most important task and its releases should form invaluable reference material.

In this connection, at the request of the Executive Committee, copies of two papers prepared by the American Academy of Teachers of Singing have been distributed by that body to members of NATS. One is the "Ninth Song List—Songs for the First Two Years of Study". The other is "Problems of Tessitura in Relation to Choral Music". The Academy assumed all expenses of distribution and NATS expresses its thanks for this friendly cooperation.

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### Returning Veterans

One of the vital problems facing our profession is the case of the discharged veterans who desire voice training. Already these have applied in large numbers to the Veterans Administration for such training. Because of the wording of the so-called "G. I. Bill of Rights", the private teacher is prevented from contributing his share in carrying on this educational work.

Available information of Government Scholarships, as yet incomplete, but of real interest to all private teachers is published in this issue. NATS may well take the matter under consideration and lend its weight in an effort to solve the difficulties.

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## GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

1) There are two classifications under the existing law through which returning veterans may receive educational and vocational help, as follows:

(a) **Veterans Rehabilitation.**

The purpose of the rehabilitation program is to train veterans in fields which will enable them to overcome their vocational handicaps, due to war service, and may only be authorized under contracts between the Veterans Administration and approved schools.

(b) **G. I. Bill of Rights,** (Public Law No. 346, 78th Congress).

Discharged veterans who accept funds for educational and vocational purposes (of which music is a part) rather than money for the purchase of homes, setting up in business, etc.

2) Under the present law the status of the private teacher of singing is as follows:

a) **Veterans Rehabilitation.**

It is possible for the veteran to study with a private teacher, after investigation and the obtaining of permission from the Veterans Administration to do so.

b) **G. I. Bill of Rights.**

It is not possible to study with a private teacher except through registration of the teacher and veteran with an approved educational institution. In this latter case the singing instruction may be given by a private teacher and his fee will be paid through the institution. The law reads "approved schools" as the only channel.

Further information was obtained from the National Headquarters of the Veterans Administration in Washington to the effect that "With respect to private instructors you are informed that Public Law No. 346 specifies that an eligible person shall be entitled to education or training at "an approved educational or training institution"; therefore, it will not be possible to approve a private instructor per se for purposes of giving education or training under this law. However, if there is a properly equipped facility such as a studio, either in a private home or elsewhere, at which a competent instructor conducts a definite educational or training program according to the regularly prescribed standards and practices, and such facility is approved by the appropriate approving agency of the State, a veteran may be enrolled under Public Law No. 346 for such course or courses as the facility is qualified and equipped to give."

For New York State the approving agency is the University of the State of New York, Office of the President of the University and Commissioner of Education, Albany, New York. Application has been made to this agency for information regarding (1) the status of the private teacher of singing in this educational plan, and (2) what procedure is to be followed by the private teacher in order to obtain approval so that he may participate in the work covered by this program. A reply is being awaited.

*(The above Report was compiled by a Committee of the American Academy of Teachers of Singing, and is published herein with its permission.)*

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### Composers and Authors

It has been suggested that the Association compile a list of the published songs composed by NATS members and distribute this list throughout the Association. This has been done by the New York Singing Teachers Association for their members and has proven most helpful to all.

As we have many authors on our rolls, might it not be valuable also to compile and issue a list of their published books? Both lists would be useful and valuable to us. Perhaps the President will appoint a Committee for this purpose if urged.

# Report to the Membership

The informal report by President Wilcox, published on Page one, gives the story of the numerous matters discussed and acted on at the meeting of the Board of Directors of NATS last month.

The following more detailed report may contain certain repetitions but it was thought advisable, as a matter of information and interest to the member body, to supplement the President's comments with this more complete record of the proceedings of the meeting—both as to matters voted on and matters discussed.

### Report of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of NATS

(Held in New York City, February 19, 1945)

Present: John C. Wilcox (Pres.); Homer G. Mowe (Vice-Pres.); Walter A. Stults (Sec.); Carl Gutekunst (Treas.); Grace Leslie (Registrar); and Leon Carson (Reg. Gov., Eastern District); Richard De Young (Reg. Gov., Central District); and Bernard U. Taylor (Chrm. Comm. on Admissions).

### Amendments to By-Laws

The following amendments were approved and are submitted to the members, who are requested to send their vote on each Amendment to the Secretary, within 30 days.

1) Article II, Section 2. "Election of Members". Amended by the insertion after the word "experience" in the third line of said section of the following parenthetical clause to-wit:—("a minimum of five consecutive years of actual voice teaching"). (See explanation and comment in article by President Wilcox).

2) Article IX, Section 1. "Dues". Amended to read that,—as of January 1, 1946 and thereafter until otherwise changed, "Five Dollars ($5.00)" for the rpesent reading of "Three Dollars ($3.00)". See President Wilcox's article for comment.

3) Article IV, Section 5. "Officers". Amended by the insertion of the following Section 6. "REGISTRAR: The Registrar shall, immediately after receiving from the Executive Committee the names of any teachers who have been approved as members of the National Association of Teachers of Singing, Inc., enter said names, together with correct mailing addresses, on the Association's Membership Roll. At least once each month the Registrar shall mail to Executive Officers, Chairman of Committee on Admissions and Regional Governors a list of all members entered upon the roll since the last preceding similar report. The Registrar shall also keep in a book or card file the names and addresses of all members of this Association and shall hold this available for inspection at any time by the Executive Officers and Chairman of the Committee on Admissions."

The above insertions having been made, the present Section 6 will then become Section 7, and the present Section 7 will become Section 8.

4) Code of Ethics. Section 9. This section of the Code of Ethics to be changed by adding after the words "previous voice training", the phrase "or where the student has authorized such claim in writing".

### Elections.

**Board of Directors.** The incumbent Directors were re-elected for the current year. They are John C. Wilcox, Richard De Young, Walter A. Stults, Homer G. Mowe, and Leon Carson.

**Representatives-at-Large.** The slate of Representatives-at-Large as printed in the **Bulletin,** issue number 2 as of January 1945, was officially approved with the addition of Chase Baromeo as Representative for the Southwestern District. (See Official Directory on Page 2 for complete list.)

### Appointments

The office of "Co-Ordinator of Field Activities" was created, to be filled by appointment at the President's discretion. The chief duty of this officer to be the supervision of, and coordination of the activities of all Regional Governors and Representatives-at-Large. Leon Carson was requested to act in this capacity by the President.

The President was empowered to appoint the following Committees:

**Editorial Committee.** This Committee to consist of not less than five members and to have supervision of any and all educational papers of the Association. (See President's report).

The President has already appointed the following members to this Committee: the following members to this committee: Shirley Gandell, Chicago, Ill., chairman; Ray H. Crittenden, Los Angeles, Calif.; Homer G. Mowe, New York City; E. Clifford Toren, Chicago, Ill.; and Justin Williams, Baltimore, Md.

**Research Committee.** This committee to consist of not less than three members. (See President's report for details of the work of this committee.)

William E. Ross of the University of Indiana is the chairman of this committee.

**Survey Committee.** (See President's report.) William E. Jones, Texas State College for Women, Denton, Texas, is chairman of this committee.

**Publicity Committee.** This committee to be headed by President Wilcox and to be of such size as will permit coverage of all the Districts.

### Reports

**Treasurer.** Mr. Gutekunst reported that dues were being received at a gratifying rate and that outstanding bills had been paid. The question of the number of **Bulletins** to be published each year was discussed. It is hoped that the Association, next season, may be financially able to issue the **Bulletin** monthly, starting in October and continuing through May. It was decided to publish a third issue this year, in April, and if possible a fourth before Summer. If the fourth issue is not possible, the members will be informed by letter of all matters under consideration.

**Registrar.** Miss Leslie submitted an interesting analysis of the Membership Roll, which appears in another column. She makes the urgent request that those charter members who have failed to file Biographical Sketches do so at once so that her records may be complete.

### National Music Council

The invitation of the National Music Council to affiliate with that organization was accepted. The NMC includes in its membership nearly all of the National associations having any interest in music; the broadcasting companies; music publishers; music teachers associations; composers groups; manufacturers of musical instruments; music fraternities and sororities, etc. Its President is Howard Hanson and its Executive Secretary, Edwin Hughes.

### National Association for Opera, Inc.

This organization was officially launched in December 1944, with Clifford Bair (NATS Regional Governor, Southeastern District) as President. Its objects are to further the composition, production and appreciation of Opera throughout our country, as one of the most valuable forms of musical expression and musical art; to further cooperation between existing centers of opera activity and to encourage the formation and growth of new centers of production; and to furnish information on all phases of operatic endeavor, and to afford such other assistance as may be possible and desirable.

In response to a request from Mr. Bair for such action, our National Association of Teachers of Singing went on record as being in sympathy with the ideas of the National Association for Opera, in so far as is consistent with the policy and aims of NATS.

Many of our NATS members are also members of NAO and these will have been informed of the plan to establish opera training centers throughout the country. Information regarding NAO may be obtained by writing Mr. Bair.

### Regional Activities

After considerable discussion of the problems involved, the Board of Directors requested President Wilcox to draw up and present for consideration a comprehensive plan of regional activities with especial emphasis upon development of a procedure for ethical advertising of membership in NATS as a means of indicating extensive educational background, pedagogical skill and ethical probity. District activities are to be encouraged. District meetings are de-

sirable, all planned to further the general objectives outlined in NATS By-Laws.

### New Business

**Personal Advertising.** The Board of Directors favored the use of the phrase "Member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing, Inc." in any advertising cards placed in the music journals or public press by our members.

**Membership List.** Any requests for the membership lists of NATS by outsiders for any purpose are to be referred to the Secretary who, with the President, has power to decide on such requests.

**Certificate of Membership.** It is desirable that each member have a printed certificate of membership, suitable for framing. Shown on the walls of the member's studio this certificate will be evidence of the teacher's adherence to the high ethical principles of NATS and of the recognition of his professional ability by his colleagues in the teaching profession.

The Chicago members of the Board were requested to obtain information as to cost and all details regarding such certificates. Action on this important matter will be taken as soon as their report has been submitted.

**Representatives-at-Large.** The suggestion was considered that the number of Representatives-at-Large be increased above the present twelve. It was decided that the present number be retained until such time as experience has shown the need for a greater number. These officers can perform most important duties in assisting their Regional Governors but the Governor may obtain additional assistance by means of informal Advisory Committees which he has the authority to appoint.

**Associate Members.** The subject of associate members in NATS was reconsidered, but the Board held to the same view that existed at our founding in Cincinnati last year, that NATS would be stronger if our membership was limited, as at present under our By-Laws, to **teachers of singing only.** Whatever aid, financial or otherwise, that might be obtained through an Associate class of membership would be counter-balanced by a loss of unity and solidarity.

## ELECTED TO MEMBERSHIP

(Add to your Membership List)

### EASTERN DISTRICT

La Fleur, Mrs. Claire Jean, 328 Chemung St., Waverly, N. Y.
Lehmann, Oscar H., 327 N. Charles St., Baltimore 1, Md.
Martino, Mr. Raffaele, 454 Stuart St., Boston, Mass.
Mastin, Cecil D., WNBF, Arlington Hotel, Binghamton, N. Y.
Schey, Mrs. Margit (Kux), 404 E. 55th St., New York City.

### SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT

Dickensheets, Harold W., Lenoir Rhyne College, Hickory, N. C.
Johnson, Lewis H., Agnes Scott College, Decatur, Ga.
Stein, Mrs. Marguerite Neekamp, 503 6th Ave., Huntington, W. Va.
Sullivan, Mrs. Lilian Bennett, 627 Peachtree St., Atlanta, Ga.
Wardle, Miss Constance, Hollins College, Virginia.

### SOUTHERN DISTRICT

Dalton, Sydney, 113 Louise Ave., Nashville, Tenn.

### SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT

Coffin, R. Berton, John Tarleton College, Stephenville, Tex.
Larsen, Miss Lilly, 1307 Polk St., Amarillo, Tex.
O'Connor, Mrs. Vincent J., 4353 San Carlos Dr., Dallas, Tex.
Sharp, Miss Rhoda, 208 S. Public, Tonkawa, Okla.

### CALIFORNIA-WESTERN DISTRICT

Gude, Mme. Louise (Funk), 219 Morton Ave., Sierre Madre, Calif.
Lake, Mrs. Annette Yde, 308 S. Arnaz Dr., Los Angeles, Calif.

### NORTHWESTERN DISTRICT

Bird, Marcell, W. 340 South 2nd St., Preston, Idaho.
Miller, Mrs. Florence Lynch, Box 17, La Grande, Ore.
Walls, Robert B., University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho.

### CENTRAL DISTRICT

Cobb, Miss Ruth Tilton, 1804 La Porte Ave., Whiting, Ind.
Eberl, William A., 2274 N. Summit Ave., Milwaukee 2, Wis.
Gerts, Miss Annemarie, 4226 N. Sawyer Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Gilliland, Dale V., Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.
Gunlaugson, Miss Christine, 734 E. State St., Jacksonville, Ill.
Mathias, Elmer L., 319 Fair Ave., N.W., New Philadelphia, Ohio.
McLean, Cameron, 636 W. Kirby Ave., Detroit 2, Mich.
Metzger, Mrs. Zerlina Muhlman, 665 Barry Ave., Chicago 14, Ill.
Nelson, Carl L., Western Ill. St. Teachers College, Macomb, Ill.
Newton, George, 319 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis 4, Ind.
Nye, Mrs. Olga (Bugh), 147 E. Bridge St., Berea 11, Ohio.
Russell, Miss Maude I., 69 Cherry St., Battle Creek, Mich.
Sandahl, Miss Marcia, 500 W. Diversey Pky., Chicago 14, Ill.
Scaffi, Maurice, 5241 Winthrop Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Scott, Mme. Gilderoy, Frances Shimer College, Mount Carroll, Ill.
Sharnova, Miss Sonia, 5046 Blackstone Ave., Chicago 15, Ill.
Snyder, Ellis E., 119 S. Ardmore Rd., Bexley 9, Ohio.
Stringer, Mr. L. H., Milton College, Milton, Wis.
Widmann, Miss Catherine, P. O. Box 5952, Cleveland, Ohio.

## FROM THE REGISTRAR'S FILES

The total membership of NATS as of the date of March 15, 1945 is 329. By districts, the distribution is as follows:

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|---|---|
| Eastern, 109 | Northern, 4 |
| Southeastern, 22 | Southwestern, 43 |
| Southern, 9 | California-Western, 28 |
| Central, 94 | Northwestern, 20 |

A complete analysis of the training and of the field of teaching of the members is not possible because many of the charter members and others who joined the Association prior to November 1944 have failed to file their biographical sketches. However, from the available biographies the following interesting figures were obtained:

| | |
|---|---|
| Teachers trained in America | 125 |
| Teachers trained in America and in Europe | 63 |
| Teachers trained in Europe | 14 |
| Engaged in private teaching | 115 |
| Engaged in college and conservatory teaching | 108 |
| Teaching in both fields | 28 |

The Registrar urges that members who have not filed their biographical sketch do so at once, and asks for the assistance of the Regional Governors in completing the Association files. More complete statistics will be given at a later date.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR MEMBERSHIP IN NATS?

While our by-laws answer this question in fairly specific terms, there are instances which call for discriminating interpretation, as our field officers and Committee on Admissions well know.

To clarify this matter we will here record the decisions of the Executive Committee as made in some definite situations:

"Adequate teaching experience" as a qualification for membership is regarded as a minimum of five consecutive years of actual teaching. (This requirement is stated in a proposed amendment to the by-laws, as recorded in another column of the current **Bulletin.**)

Applicants for membership who are at present holding administrative or supervisory positions in schools of music or music departments of public schools, colleges or universities **but who have previously been active teachers of singing and in every sense qualified for membership in NATS,** are regarded as eligible. This decision is based upon the belief that such executives may establish high standards of pedagogy and ethics for the active teachers under their supervision and thus effectively help to further the program of NATS.

Choral directors whose activities in voice teaching are confined to vocal drills as a feature of rehearsal routine are deemed not eligible for membership in NATS. To qualify for membership they must be regularly engaged in specific vocal teaching for singing and be able to meet all other requirements for membership as prescribed in our by-laws.

The conviction of the founders and charter members of NATS, as expressed in the by-laws, was that this Association will function more effectively and better serve the cause of vocal education if its membership is restricted to active teachers of singing who can meet the requirements for adequate educational preparation and teaching experience, personal and professional integrity, and adherence to high ethical practices.

In certain cases some choral directors who are making an incidental but nevertheless valuable contribution to vocal education might seem to be desirable membership material for NATS; but exceptions cannot be made without destroying the impersonal attitude that your Committee on Admissions and executive officers are striving so conscientiously to maintain.

### PERSONAL ITEMS

J. Oscar Miller (Regional Governor, Southern District) conductor of the Chattanooga (Tenn.) Civic Chorus is presenting TANNHAUSER in concert form on May 7 and 9. He is also planning to hold a Southern District meeting of NATS members in the late Spring.

J. Forrest West, Regional Governor, Northern District, has scheduled a District meeting early in June.

Leon Carson, Regional Governor, Eastern District, plans a similar meeting while wondering how he can keep within the CDT limit of fifty.